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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,591	11/09/2001	Manfred Bartz	CYPR-CD01163M	4354

7590 01/27/2005
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EXAMINER

VU, THANH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/010,591

Applicant(s)

BARTZ ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh T. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to the amendment, filed 09/07/2004.

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. In the amendment, claims 1,7, 11, 17, 21, 27, 31 and 35 were amended. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7-14, 17-24, 27-33, and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fernandes (US 6,014,135) and Choy et al. ("Choy", U.S. Pat. No. 5,506,952).

As per claim 1, Fernandes teaches a method of helping a user perform tasks in software, said method comprising: rendering a first plurality of graphic elements and a second plurality of graphic elements, wherein said first and second pluralities of elements are visibly displayed regardless of which of said tasks is being performed, wherein user selection of an element with said element is active initiates an action in response to said selection (Fig.3, col.10, lines 6-32, *plurality of first icons 40(A-C), plurality of second icons 42(A-B)*);

activating a first portion of said first plurality of graphic elements, and activating a second portion of said second plurality of graphic elements in response to user selection of an element from said first plurality of graphic elements, wherein said tasks are to be performed in a logical order and wherein said second portion is selectively activated to guide said user through said tasks according to said logical order (Fig.3, col.10, lines 32-47, *icon activated*).

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Fernandes does not specifically teach said first and second pluralities of graphic elements are visibly displayed at the same time regardless of which of said tasks is being performed and regardless of whether said first and second pluralities of graphic elements are active or inactive, where a user selection of said element with said element inactive does not initiate an action.

However, Choy teaches said first and second pluralities of graphic elements are visibly displayed at the same time regardless of which of said tasks is being performed and regardless of whether said first and second pluralities of graphic elements are active or inactive, where a user selection of said element with said element inactive does not initiate an action (fig. 3; col. 2, lines 13-22 and lines 60-67; col. 5, lines 14-33). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include inactive icons as taught by Choy in the invention of Fernandes in order to prevent user from selecting an incorrect icon to perform an operation.

As per claim 2, Fernandes teaches wherein said first plurality of graphic elements comprises elements that are active regardless of which task is being performed (Fig.3, col.8, lines 29-34, *displaying icons*).

As per claim 3, Fernandes teaches wherein elements in said first portion are selectively activated to guide said user through said tasks according to said logical order (Fig.3, col.10, lines 35-45).

As per claim 4, Fernandes teaches wherein elements in said second portion are activated in response to user selection of an element from said first portion (Fig.3, col.10, lines 35-45).

As per claim 7, Fernandes discloses said first and second plurality of graphic elements comprises first icons organized in a first row and said second plurality of graphic elements comprises icons organized in a second row adjacent to said first row, wherein said first icons and said second icons are arranged to indicate a hierarchy of said tasks within said logical order (Fig. 3, col.3, lines 6-17; col. 10, lines 6-32) .

As per claim 8, Fernandes teaches wherein said first and second plurality of graphic elements are displayed in an order corresponding to said logical order (Fig.3, col.10, lines 6-32, *plurality of first icons 40(A-C), plurality of second icons 42(A-B)*).

As per claim 9, Fernandes teaches wherein selected windows are displayed in response to user selection of an element (Fig.4, col.10, lines 50-65, *display 50 changes to another display in response to user selection*).

As per claim 10, Fernandes teaches wherein a first element for a first task and a second element for a second task are active at the same time, wherein according to said logical order there are intervening tasks between said first and second tasks, and wherein movement between said first task and said second task is accomplished without movement through said intervening tasks in response to user selection of said first and second elements (col.12, lines 51-67, *collaborative voting*).

Claims 11-14 and 21-24 are similar in scope to claims1-4, respectively, and therefore are rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 17-20 and 27-30 are similar in scope to claims7-10, respectively, and therefore are rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 31-33 are similar in scope to claims 1-3, respectively, and therefore are rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 35-37 are similar in scope to claims 7-9, respectively, and therefore are rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 5-6, 15-16, 25-26, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fernandes (US 6,014,135), Choy et al. ("Choy", U.S. Pat. No. 5,506,952), and Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA").

As per claims 5-6, while Fernandes and Choy teaches the method of helping a user perform tasks in software, Fernandes does not specifically teach wherein said tasks comprise tasks for designing a microcontroller and wherein said microcontroller is designed according to a programmable single-chip architecture. "AAPA" discloses the use of tasks in designing a microcontroller and wherein said microcontroller is designed according to programmable single-chip architecture. (page 2, lines 6-20; page 4, lines 1-5). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Bartz from "AAPA" with the method of Fernandes and Choy because it simplifies and facilitates microcontroller design by making the process more intuitive and easier to use by representing tasks as graphical elements.

Claims 15-16 and 25-26 are similar in scope to claims 5-6, respectively, and therefore are rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 35 is similar in scope to claim 6, and therefore is rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the amendment have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Inquiries

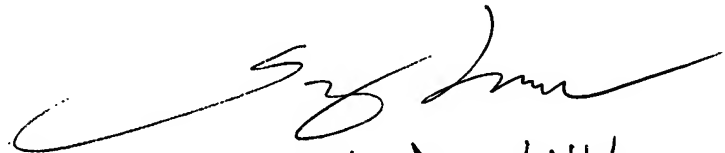
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh T. Vu whose telephone number is (571) 272-4073. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur and every other Fri 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

T. Vu



SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER